

## Summer Reading List

*Summer offers a perfect time to read for pleasure whether relaxing at home or on vacation. An added benefit is that lots of reading during the summer helps a reader become a better reader.*

*This list provides lots of good choices for summer reading. There is something here for everyone, but it is not an all inclusive list. All of the authors listed have many other interesting works to consider, and some of the books are in a series that follows the same central character or topic. You will want to preview every title for appropriateness of content, interest, and reading level before selecting it for summer reading.*

### Primary (Pre-School to Grade 3)

#### Fiction, Folklore, and Poetry

*Abe Lincoln's Hat* – Martha Brenner, Donald Cook (illus)  
*Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* – Judith Viorst, Ray Cruz (illus)  
*Anansi the Spider: A Tale from the Ashanti* – Gerald McDermott  
*Amelia Bedelia* (series) – Peggy Parish  
*Arthur's Jelly Beans* (series) – Marc Brown  
*Beekeepers* - Linda Oatman High, Doug Chayka (illus)  
*The Bremen Town Musicians: And Other Animal Tales from Grimm* – Doris Orgel, Bert Kitchen (illus)  
*Class Clown* – Johanna Hurwitz  
*Clifford the Big Red Dog* (series) – Norman Bridwell [Indiana author]  
*Curious George Goes to the Beach* (series) – H. A. Rey  
*Cyrus the Unsinkable Sea Serpent* – Bill Peet [Indiana author]  
*The Day Jimmy's Boa Ate the Wash* – Tinka Hakes Noble, Steven Kellogg (illus)  
*The Dog Who Had Kittens* – Polly Robertus, Janet Stevens (illus)  
*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* – Mo Willems  
*Epossumondas* – Coleen Salley, Janet Stevens (illus)  
*Frog and Toad All Year* (series) – Arnold Lobel  
*Goodnight Moon* – Margaret Wise Brown  
*Green Eggs and Ham* – Dr. Seuss  
*Haircuts at Sleepy Sam's* – Michael Strickland, Keaf Holliday (illus)  
*Harry the Dirty Dog* – Gene Zion, Margaret Bloy Graham (illus)  
*Henry Huggins and the Clubhouse* (series) – Beverly Cleary  
*If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (series) – Laura Numeroff  
*James Marshall's Mother Goose* (nursery rhymes) – James Marshall (illus)  
*John Philip Duck* – Patricia Polacco  
*Junie B., First Grader: Toothless Wonder* (Junie B. Jones series) – Barbara Park, Denise Brunkus (illus.)  
*Just So Stories* – Rudyard Kipling  
*Kitten's First Full Moon* – Kevin Henkes (illus)  
*Lemonade Sun: And Other Summer Poems* – Rebecca Kai Dotlich [Indiana author],  
Jan Spivey Gilchrist (illus.)  
*The Little Engine That Could* – Watty Piper, George Hauman (illus)  
*The Littlest Wolf* – Larry Dane Brimner, Jose Aruego (illus)  
*Lon Po Po* (a Chinese version of *Little Red Riding Hood*) – Ed Young  
*Lyle, Lyle, Crocodile* (series) – Bernard Waber

*The Magic School Bus: Inside a Hurricane* (series) – Joanna Cole  
*The Monster Who Ate My Peas* – Danny Schnitzlein, Matt Faulkner (illus)  
*Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters* (African version of *Cinderella*) – John Steptoe  
*My Painted House, My Friendly Chicken and Me* – Maya Angelou, Margaret Courtney-Clarke (illus)  
*Navajo Coyote Tales* - William Morgan  
*Noodle Man: The Pasta Superhero* – April Pulley Sayre [Indiana author]  
*One Hundred Hungry Ants: Rhyming-Math Skills* – Elinor J. Pinczes, Bonnie McKain (illus)  
*Pieces: A Year in Poems and Quilts* – Anna Grossnickle Hines  
*Radio Man/Don Radio: A Story in English and Spanish* – Arthur Borros, Sandra Marulanda Borros (illus)  
*Raggedy Ann and Andy* (series) – Johnny Gruelle [Indiana author]  
*Sing a Song of Popcorn: Every Child's Book of Poems* - Beatrice Schenk de Regniers and others  
*The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales* – Jon Scieszka, Lane Smith (illus)  
*Tar Beach* – Faith Ringgold  
*There's an Alligator Under My Bed* – Mercer Mayer  
*The Three Little Pigs* – Stephen Kellogg  
*Three Samurai Cats* – Eric A. Kimmel, Mordicai Gerstein (illus)  
*The True Story of the Three Little Pigs* – Jon Scieszka, Lane Smith (illus)  
*The Very Hungry Caterpillar* – Eric Carle  
*Turquoise Boy: A Navajo Legend* - Terri Cohlene  
*Where the Wild Things Are* – Maurice Sendak

## Nonfiction

*About Reptiles: A Guide for Children* - Cathryn P. Sill  
*Achoo! Bang! Crash! The Noisy Alphabet* – Ross MacDonald (illus)  
*Actual Size* - Steve Jenkins  
*Amelia and Eleanor Go for a Ride* (about Amelia Earhart and Eleanor Roosevelt) - Pam Munoz Ryan  
*Ant, Ant, Ant! An Insect Chant* - April Pulley Sayre [Indiana author]  
*Apple Fractions* - Jerry Pallotta and Rob Bolster  
*Bats: Creatures of the Night* - Joyce Milton  
*Biggest, Strongest and Fastest* – Steve Jenkins  
*The Bird Alphabet Book* - Jerry Pallotta  
*Building a House* - Byron Barton  
*Crawdad Creek* - Scott Russell Sanders [Indiana author]  
*Diary of a Spider* – Doreen Cronin, Harry Bliss (illus)  
*Diary of a Worm* – Doreen Cronin, Harry Bliss (illus)  
*Digging up Dinosaurs* - Aliki  
*Duke Ellington* - Brian Pinkney  
*Each Orange Had 8 Slices Counting Book* – Paul Giganti, Donald Crews (illus)  
*Gator or Croc?* - Allan Fowler  
*George Washington's Teeth* – Deborah Chandra, Madeleine Comara, Brock Cole (illus)  
*Going on a Whale Watch* - Bruce McMillan  
*The Greedy Triangle* – Marilyn Burns, Gordon Silveria (illus)  
*H Is for Hoosier* – Dori Hillestad Butler, Eileen Potts Dawson (illus)  
*Honest Abe* - Edith Kunhardt  
*The Honey-makers* - Gail Gibbons  
*Hottest, Coldest, Highest, Deepest* - Steve Jenkins  
*How Much Is a Million?* - David Schwartz  
*Icky Bug Counting Book* - Jerry Pallotta  
*I Spy: A Book of Picture Riddles* – Jean Marzollo, Walter Wick (illus)

*If You Decide to Go to the Moon* – Faith McNulty, Steven Kellogg (illus)  
*The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* – Mordicai Gerstein  
*Math Curse* – Jon Scieszka, Lane Smith (illus)  
*Math Fables* - Greg Tang  
*Mother to Tigers* – George Ella Lyons, Peter Catalanotto (illus)  
*Mr. Lincoln's Whiskers* (child's letter to Lincoln) – Karen B. Winnick (illus)  
*Nights of the Pufflings* - Bruce McMillan  
*Outside and Inside Kangaroos* - Sandra Markle  
*Pick, Pull, Snap! Where Once a Flower Bloomed* - Lola M. Schaefer [Indiana author]  
*A Picture Book of Thomas Alva Edison* – David A Adler, John C. Wallner, and Alexander Wallner  
*Pop Bottle Science* – Lynn Brunelle  
*A Ride on Mother's Back: A Day of Baby Carrying Around the World*–Emery Bernhard, Durgu Bernhard (illus)  
*Seaman's Journal: On the Trail with Lewis and Clark* – Patti Reeder Eubank  
*Secrets of Sounds: Studying the Calls of Whales, Elephants, and Birds* - April Pulley Sayre [Indiana author]  
*Sharks* - Gail Gibbons  
*Thunder on the Plains: The Story of the American Buffalo* - Ken Robins  
*Time Flies* – Eric Rohmann  
*Tornadoes* - Seymour Simon  
*What Do You Do with a Tail Like This?* - Robin Page, Steve Jenkins  
*What's Up, What's Down* - Lola M. Schaefer [Indiana author]  
*When Marian Sang* – Pam Munoz Ryan

## Intermediate and Middle School (Grades 4 - 8)

### **Fiction. Mythology, and Poetry**

*The Absolutely True Story...How I Visited Yellowstone Park with the Terrible Rupes* - Willo Davis Roberts

*American Tall Tales* – Mary Pope Osborne

*Angels Watching Over Me* - Lurlene McDaniel

*The Bears of Blue River* - Charles Major [Indiana author]

*Bearstone* - Will Hobbs

*Because of Winn-Dixie* - Kate DiCamillo

*Black Stallion* (series) - Walter Farley

*Ben and Me* - Robert Lawson

*The Cay* – Theodore Taylor

*Code Orange* - Caroline B. Cooney

*Code Talker: A Novel About the Navajo Marines of World War II* - Joseph Bruchac

*Crash* - Jerry Spinelli

*Dear Mr. Henshaw* - Beverly Cleary

*Ego Tripping and Other Poems for Young People* – Nikki Giovanni

*Firefly Summer* – Pura Bulpure

*Friendly Persuasion* - Jessamyn West [Indiana author]

*Hatchet* --Gary Paulsen

*Hoot* – Carl Hiaasen

*Hunting the Hunter* (On The Run series, No. 6) - Gordon Korman

*I, Robot* – Isaac Asimov

*Inkheart* - Cornelia Funke

*Johnny Tremain* – Ester Forbes

*Journey to the Center of the Earth* - Jules Verne

*King Arthur: Tales from the Round Table* - Andrew Lang

*Knots in My Yoyo String* - Jerry Spinelli

*The Macmillan Book of Greek Gods and Myths* - Alice Low

*Midnight for Charlie Bone* (The Children of the Red King series, Book 1) - Jenny Nimmo

*Mrs. Fisby and the Rats of NIMH* - Robert C. O'Brien

*Out of the Dust* - Karen Hesse

*Phantom Tollbooth* – Norton Juster

*The Prince and the Pauper* - Mark Twain

*The Pushcart War* - Jean Merrill

*Roll of Thunder, Here My Cry* – Mildred D. Taylor

*The Schwa Was Here* - Neal Shusterman

*The Sign of the Beaver* - Elizabeth George Speare

*Skeleton Man* - Joseph Bruchac

*Souder* - William Armstrong

*Stranded* - Ben Mikaelson

*Tales of Terror: The Monkey's Paw and The Monsters Are Due on Maple Street* –

W. W. Jacobs & Rod Serling

*The Teacher's Funeral* - Richard Peck

*There's A Girl In My Hammerlock* - Jerry Spinelli

*The Three Musketeers* - Alexander Dumas

*The Time Machine* – H. G. Wells

*The True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle* - Avi

*Tuck Everlasting* - Natalie Babbitt

*The Watsons Go to Birmingham--1963* - Christopher Paul Curtis

*Where the Red Fern Grows* - Wilson Rawls  
*The Wish List* - Evin Coffey  
*A Wrinkle in Time* - Madeleine L'Engle  
*The Yearling* - Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings

## **Nonfiction**

*African Princess* - Louise Hansen  
*All Creatures Great and Small* - James Herriot  
*Amelia Earhart: The Mystery Solved* – Elgen M. & Marie K. Long  
*Bone Detective: The Story of Forensic Anthropologist Diane France* - Lorraine Jean Hopping  
*Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss* - Kathleen Krull  
*The Brooklyn Bridge: They Said It Couldn't Be Built* - Judith St. George  
*Buddy: The First Seeing Eye Dog* - Eva Moore  
*The Buffalo Soldiers* - William H. Leckie  
*Built to Last: Building America's Amazing Bridges, Dams, Tunnels, and Skyscrapers* - George Sullivan  
*Cave Sleuths: Solving Science Underground* - Laurie Lindop  
*The Children of Willesden Lane: Beyond the Kindertransport: A Memoir of Music, Love, and Survival* – Mona Golabek, Lee Cohen  
*The Complete Book of Skateboards and Skateboarding Gear*  
(The World of Skateboarding series) – Brian Wingate  
*Discovering Fossils: How to Find and Identify Remains of the Prehistoric Past* (Fossils & Dinosaurs) - Frank A. Garcia  
*Everything Kids' Cookbook: From Mac 'N Cheese to Double Chocolate Chip Cookies--All You Need to Have Some Finger Lickin' Fun* - Sandra Nissenberg  
*Facing the Lion: Growing Up Maasai on the African Savanne* - Joseph Lemasolai Lekuton  
*Flight* – Robert Burleigh  
*Forces of Nature: The Awesome Power of Volcanoes, Earthquakes, and Tornadoes* - Catherine O'Neill Grace  
*Frederick Douglass: The Black Lion* - Patricia McKissack  
*The Grapes of Math* (math riddles) - Gregory Tang, Harry Briggs (illus)  
*The Great Fire* - Jim Murphy  
*The Great Expedition of Lewis and Clark: by Private Reubin Field, Member of the Corps of Discovery*  
(Lewis and Clark Expedition, 1804-1806) - Judith Edwards, Sally Wern Comport (illus)  
*How Dinosaurs Took Flight: Fossils, Science, What We Think We Know, and Mysteries Yet Unsolved* - Christopher Sloan  
*How to Hide a Butterfly and Other Insects* - Joyce Powzyk  
*Indy 500: The Inside Track* - Nancy Roe Pimm  
*King of the World: Muhammed Ali and the Rise of an American Hero* - David Remnick  
*The Land I Lost: Adventures of a Boy in Vietnam* - Qhang Nhuong Huynh  
*Leonardo da Vinci: Artist, Inventor, and Scientist of the Renaissance* - Francesca Romei  
*Left for Dead: A Young Man's Search for Justice for the USS Indianapolis* - Pete Nelson  
*The Life and Death of Crazy Horse* - Russell Freedman  
*Lincoln: A Photobiography* - Russell Freeman  
*Looking for Seabirds: Journal from an Alaskan Voyage* - Sophie Webb  
*Major Taylor: Champion Cyclist* - Lesa Cline-Ransome  
*Math-terpieces* - Gregory Tang, Greg Paprocki (illus)  
*Mother Teresa: A Complete Authorized Biography* - Kathryn Spink  
*Mozart: A Cultural Biography* - Robert W. Gutman  
*My Life with the Chimpanzees* - Jane Goodall  
*My Name Is America: The Journal of Scott Pendleton, a World War II Soldier* - Walter Dean Myers

*On the Court with. . .Michael Jordan* - Matt Christopher  
*Outside and Inside Mummies* - Sandra Markle  
*Pride of Puerto Rico: The Life of Roberto Clemente* - Paul Robert Walker  
*Problem Solving and Word Problems* [Math Success series] - Rebecca Wingard-Nelson  
*Reaching for the Moon* - Buzz Aldrin  
*Rescuing Einstein's Compass: Young Thinker* – Shulamith Levey Oppenheim, George Juhasz (illus)  
*Ride Like the Wind: A Tale of the Pony Express* - Bernie Fuchs  
*Shipwreck at the Bottom of the World* - Jennifer Armstrong  
*The Signers: The 56 Stories Behind the Declaration of Independence* - Dennis Brindell Fradin,  
Michael McCurdy  
*Transportation of the Future* - Mark Beyer  
*Waves: From Surfing to Tsunami* - Drew Kampion  
*X-Games: Action Sports Grab the Spotlight* - Ian Young  
*You Wouldn't Want to Be a Medieval Knight!: Armor You'd Rather Not Wear* - Fiona MacDonald

## High School and Older (Grades 9 - 12+)

### Fiction, Poetry, and Drama

*The Acts of King Arthur and His Noble Knights* - John Steinbeck  
*Anna and the King of Siam* – Margaret Landon [basis for the musical *The King and I*]  
*Arthur Rex: A Legendary Novel* – Thomas Berger  
*Ben Hur* – Lew Wallace [Indiana author]  
*Black Thunder* – Arna Bontemps  
*A Canticle for Leibowitz* – Walter M. Miller, Jr.  
*Catch 22* – Joseph Heller  
*Centennial* - James Michener  
*The Count of Monte Cristo* – Alexander Dumas  
*Crazy Loco: Stories* – David Rice  
*The Crystal Cave* (series) – Mary Stewart  
*Dandelion Wine* – Ray Bradbury  
*Dune* – Frank Herbert  
*Exodus* - Leon Uris  
*The Eyre Affair* (series) – Jasper Fforde  
*Feeling Sorry for Celia* – Jaclyn Moriarty  
*Follow the River: A Novel Based on the True Ordeal of Mary Ingles* - James Alexander Thom  
[Indiana author]  
*Girl of the Limberlost* (series) - Gene Stratton-Porter [Indiana author]  
*The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* (series) – Douglas Adams  
*The House on Mango Street* – Sandra Cisneros  
*If Rock and Roll Were a Machine* – Terry Davis  
*The Joy Luck Club* – Amy Tan  
*Jurassic Park* – Michael Crichton  
*The Killer Angels* – Michael Shaara  
*The King Must Die* – Mary Renault  
*The Last Unicorn* – Peter S. Beagle  
*Les Miserables* – Victor Hugo  
*The Life of Pi* – Martel Yann  
*Lonesome Dove* – Larry McMurtry  
*The Magnificent Obsession* – Lloyd C. Douglas [Indiana author]  
*Master and Commander* (series) – Patrick O'Brien  
*Mr. Midshipman Hornblower* (series) – C. S. Forester  
*The Natural* – Bernard Malamud  
*The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* (series) – Alexander McCall Smith  
*Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats* – T. S. Eliot [basis for the musical *Cats*]  
*Out of the Silent Planet* – C. S. Lewis  
*The Perfect Storm* – Sebastian Junger  
*The Praise Singer* – Mary Renault  
*The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole, Aged 13 3/4* – Sue Townsend  
*The Secret Life of Bees* – Sue Monk Kidd  
*The Silmarillion* – J. R. R. Tolkien  
*The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* (series) – Ann Brashares  
*Skinwalkers* (Joe Leaphorn series) – Tony Hillerman  
  
*Story of the Trapp Family Singers* – Maria Augusta von Trapp [basis for the musical *The Sound of Music*]  
*Tarzan of the Apes* (series) - Edgar Rice Burroughs

*A Town Like Alice* – Nevil Shute  
*Where the Lilies Bloom* – Bill Cleaver  
*To Your Scattered Bodies Go* (series) – Philip José Farmer  
*Zorro: A Novel* – Isabel Allende

## **Nonfiction**

*1776* – David McCullough  
*Baseball: An Illustrated History* - Ken Burns  
*Blue Highways: A Journey into America* - William Least Heat-Moon  
*The Bookseller of Kabul* – Asne Seierstad  
*The Cartoon Guide to Physics* - Larry Gonick  
*The Childhood Story of Christy Brown* (formerly *My Left Foot*) – Christy Brown  
*The Complete Tutankhamun: The King, the Tomb, the Royal Treasure* - Nicholas Reeves  
*Cosmos* – Carl Sagan  
*Created By: Inside the Minds of TV's Top Show Creators* – Steven Prigge  
*Danica--Crossing the Line* - Danica Patrick  
*Deeper into Movies* – Pauline Kael  
*Democracy in America* - Alexis de Tocqueville  
*Ernie's War: The Best of Ernie Pyle's World War II Dispatches* [Indiana journalist]– David Nichols  
*Erosion: How Land Forms, How It Changes* – Darlene R. Stille  
*Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* – Eric Schlosser  
*Forensics* (Kingfisher Knowledge) – Richard Platt  
*Founding Brothers: The Revolutionary Generation* – Joseph J. Ellis  
*Founding Mothers: The Women Who Raised Our Nation* – Cokie Roberts  
*Full Steam Ahead: The Race to Build the Transcontinental Railroad* – Rhoda Blumberg  
*General Ike: A Personal Reminiscence* – John Eisenhower  
*Get Togethers: Rachael Ray 30 Minute Meals* – Rachael Ray  
*Ghost Ships, Gales and Forgotten Tales: True Adventures on the Great Lakes* – Wes Oleszewski  
*A Girl Named Zippy: Growing Up Small in Mooreland Indiana* – Haven Kimmel [Indiana author]  
*The Great Brain Book: An Inside Look at the Inside of Your Head* – H. P. Newquist  
*The Greatest Generation* – Tom Browkaw  
*Heading Out [The Start of Some Splendid Careers]* - Gloria Kamen (ed)  
*Hoop Dreams: The True Story of Hardship and Triumph* – Ben Joravsky's  
*Houdini: Master of Illusion* – Clinton Cox  
*How the Irish Saved Civilization* (series) – Thomas Cahill  
*In Code: A Mathematical Journey* – Sarah and David Flannery  
*It's Not About the Bike: My Journey Back to Life* – Lance Armstrong  
*Kon-Tiki: Across the Pacific by Raft* – Thor Heyerdahl  
*The Mathematical Tourist: Snapshots of Modern Mathematics* – Ivans Peterson  
*The Medusa and the Snail: More Notes of a Biology Watcher* – Lewis Thomas  
*The Miami Indians of Indiana: A Persistent People 1654-1994* – Steward Rafert  
*Never Mind Success—Go for Greatness!: The Best Advice I've Ever Received* – Tavis Smiley [Indiana Broadcast Journalist]  
*The Planets* – Dava Sobel  
*The Right Stuff* – Tom Wolfe  
*Rocket Boys* (also titled *October Sky*) – Homer Hickman  
*Seabiscuit: An American Legend* – Laura Hillenbrand  
*The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People* - Stephen Covey  
*Skywriting: A Life Out of the Blue* – Jane Pauley [Indiana broadcast journalist]



*Star Wars: Where Science Meets Imagination* [from National Geographic with the Museum of Science  
Boston] - Anthony Daniels  
*Stephen Hawking: Breaking the Boundaries of Time and Space* – John Bankston  
*Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* – Doris Kearns Goodwin  
*Tell Them We Remember: Story of the Holocaust* – Susan D. Bachrach  
*Tiger Woods: A Biography* – Lawrence J. Londino  
*The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference* – Malcolm Gladwell  
*A Walk in the Woods: Rediscovering America on the Appalachian Trail* – Bill Bryson  
*With Lawrence in Arabia: Lost Treasures* – Lowell Thomas [basis for the movie *Lawrence of Arabia*]